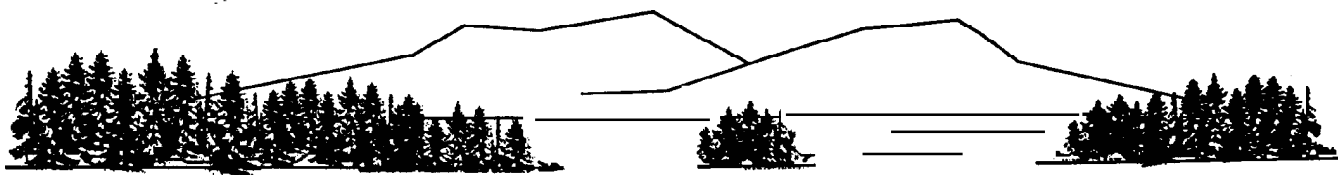


# The Tuftonboro Times



Vol. V, No. 4

A Quarterly Newsletter Published by the Tuftonboro Association

Fall 2002

## NEWSLETTER

The envelope insert in the July issue of the *Times* really worked! There were 138 donors who contributed to the *Tuftonboro Times* during these past three months, 122 of these gifts arriving in the solicitation envelope. This has been a wonderful response, and we are deeply grateful for everyone's participation and generosity! We actually have our publication costs covered for the upcoming year! This is a real milestone of which Tuftonboro should be very proud. Congratulations!

Ann Hackl

## PROFILE

Greg Heppes describes his mission at the Tuftonboro General Store as a "humbling stewardship." According to current research, the store is one of the oldest general stores in continuous operation in the country. "We want to keep it going," he says as he describes the well documented chain of ownership from the time the building was first constructed in 1822.

Greg Heppes's keen interest in history began in Michigan in 1960 when his parents took him to Greenfield Village to visit the "Muzzle Loader Festival" and the "Buckskin Rendezvous." He was fourteen at the time and was so taken by a Civil War reenactment that he immediately wanted to be a part of it. Unfortunately, the minimum age for participants was sixteen but Greg admits, somewhat sheepishly, that he slipped in at age fifteen. Since then, he has been active in depictions of Civil War history all over the country. As a member of the New Hampshire 5th Regiment, he traveled to reenactments of Civil War battles all along the east coast. But, Greg says those days are over as the average age of the soldiers in those battles was twenty-two and he has moved somewhat past that age. To replace their involvement in the "infantry," Greg and a number of compatriots have formed the "Kearsarge After Guard," a group named for a specific watch on the Civil War naval vessel *USS Kearsarge*. Since sailors tended to be much older than infantrymen, Heppes feels that their portrayal is more authentic. Several times a year, the group travels to Baltimore Harbor to perform on the *USS Constellation*, the last surviving Civil War ship. They visit other historical venues such as Strawberry Bank and Portsmouth as well.

Originally a history teacher by profession, Greg switched to industrial arts after a "request" by his Michigan principal to help with a wood shop class. He was excited by the hands-on nature of the material and soon earned a Bachelor of Science degree in the field to

go with his Bachelor of Arts in history. After eleven years of teaching in Michigan, Greg moved to New Hampshire and taught at Kingswood from 1981 through 1999 when he retired after suffering a mild heart attack.

When asked about his hobbies, he laughed, saying that he has no time for any now. He reminisced that he had been an avid rock climber in his youth and had actually taught the sport for three summers in Glacier National Park, Montana. However, when pressed about his current interests he proceeded to mention yet another historical group with which he is involved. About ten years ago, he and several acquaintances formed a band that is now called "The Amoskeag Players." He proudly displayed a photo of four of the members dressed as a "period" band. The band's specialty is nineteenth century music and they take exceptional effort to ensure that their music is authentic. The stringed instruments are gut-stringed, requiring constant tuning, and Greg plays a vintage 1835 flute. The band performs between eight and ten times a year and played on New Year's Eve for Wolfeboro's "First Night" event. When asked about the authenticity of the music in Ken Burn's PBS classic Civil War series, Greg was of the opinion that not all of the music was truly 19th century. The theme song itself was written in 1967, he points out.

After his retirement from teaching in 1999, Greg and a friend began "Woodshapes," a wood craft business that still exists but is not active. While looking for a house in Tuftonboro, Greg and his wife Teri discovered that the Tuftonboro General Store was for sale. After hours of soul searching and prayer, they decided to take all of his retirement pension in a lump sum and use it as a down payment for the store.

This November will be the third anniversary of the Heppes's purchase. The most difficult aspect of owning the store, according to both Greg and Teri, is the time requirement. Thirteen to fourteen hour days are common, but Greg is quick to point out that the effort is well worth it. The community support has been overwhelming and Teri's eyes filled as she described the customers' willingness to help carry in deliveries and even shovel snow to help out.

Greg did not want the interview to end without saying that their mission began as an effort to run an honest, Christian business, one that respects its customers and serves its community. "The conversations around the table are the same as they have been since 1822," Greg says, when neighbors gathered around the table by the wood stove discussing the events of the day. Over the

course of one hundred and eighty years, the debates have ranged from the war with Mexico, to Lincoln's assassination, through to the tragedy of 9/11 and now a possible war with Iraq. While the players and the subjects may have changed, Greg Heppes is honored to play a part keeping the history of the Tuftonboro General Store alive.

Duke Southard



## TOWN REPORT

It's hard to believe summer is over. The weather was perfect for our summer visitors! The swim program was held at 19 Mile Bay Beach for the first time and was a lot of fun for everyone.

The budget season will begin shortly. The Selectmen will spend the next two months meeting with the various Departments concerning their budgets and then they will begin to meet with the Budget Committee in December.

The landfill closure is in the final stage. The closure should be completed by Thanksgiving if not sooner.

Contracts have been signed for new software for the Town Office. This will include Assessing and Tax Collection software from Avitar Associates of NE. They are based in Chichester. The town will also be getting new Payroll, Accounts Payable, General Ledger, Bank Reconciliation and Voter Management software from MuniSmart Systems located in Dover. Both companies write software that specifically meets the needs of NH towns and will make reporting to the State much simpler. New hardware has already been installed in preparation for the conversion.

Scheduling for the third annual Tuftonboro Christmas Fund will begin next month. Tuftonboro is fortunate to have so many who are willing to help provide a joyous holiday season for those in need. Please contact Carolyn at the Town Office for more information (569-4539).

The Board of Selectmen meets Monday evenings at 6:30 PM at the Town Office. We look forward to community participation. Please join us.

Rick Chellman, Bill Stockman, Susan Weeks  
Board of Selectmen

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## EARLY LAND USE PLANNING IN TUFTONBORO

In the Spring of 1939 a Carroll County Land Use Committee was formed under the auspices of the UNH Cooperative Extension and the US Department of Agriculture as part of a statewide program to discuss land use problems on a county by county basis. The Carroll County chairman was Erroll C. Perry and members of the Tuftonboro town committee were Roger Williams, E.B. Edgerly, and chairman E.B. ("Bill") Hunter.

The Tuftonboro committee divided the town into eight regions which were mapped and described as follows:

**1.** Ossipee Mountain land that is "practically all forested with the exception of the area on Dan Hole pond where there is a boys' camp, several private summer camps, and one or two small farms. The greater part of the area has been cut over within the last thirty years and is now covered with a mixed second growth, about equal parts hardwood and softwood (which is) largely pine." "Continued forest use is to be expected."

**1.a.** Canaan area where "there are only two year-round residents..., neither...likely to stay very long. One is merely a resident, the other owns a small rough farm having a few head of stock and will probably sell out soon to a religious summer camp already owning much of the south shore of the lake. On the north shore of the lake is a small slowly growing colony of summer cottages and there are one or two summer homes on the south end of the road. The probability is that there will be no winter occupation of the area. The state road map indicates that the state may at some time aid in the improvement of the road through to Center Ossipee, the town to maintain the road. The Tuftonboro committee feels that it would be some time before the town would care to undertake this work."

**2.** Great Meadow area along the Melvin River "where settlers formerly cut a great deal of native hay. The practice has been largely given up and the meadow is now growing up to brush."

**3.** Mountain Road area extending from the Moultonboro town line to the vicinity of Canaan Road, reaching northeast to the foot of the Ossipees and southwest to the New Road-Sodom Road juncture, then continuing on past the Great Meadow to a mid-point on Dame Road where the area abruptly drops down to Middle Road. The label on the map is "Summer Use in a Mixed Pattern." The report notes that this is "a region of comparatively gentle slopes lying at the foot of the Ossipee Mountains (whose) soil is considerably more sandy (than the agricultural zone along Middle Road) and agriculture has practically been given up except for two farms on the north end of Mountain Road (...one part-time farmer ...doing a small general farm business including some beef, and one subsistence farmer).... The balance of the original farms are now used as rural residences, ...largely summer homes. ...It is expected there will be some increase in summer use....The area is largely covered with average quality second growth forest."

**3a.** County Road, New Road, Sodom Road triangle consisting of "a region of inexpensive homes owned by

laborers who work at the Bald Peak Colony Club in Moultonboro and for other summer residents chiefly....This type of occupation appears to be on the increase ..... There is no agriculture in the area (except for kitchen gardens ...and one small dairy farm selling its product in Melvin Village)."

**4.** Tuftonboro Corner and Lower Beech Pond area, described in the report as "a rough, rocky upland region split up into small farms which have been largely abandoned, purchased by summer residents or now used as rural residences. There are a few cows kept in the area and some poultry products and vegetables are produced to supply the summer population. There are two young commercial apple orchards in the extreme north of the area...which are not looked upon by the committee as very permanent....There are a considerable number of smaller summer camps around Lower Beech Pond,...the cottages on the shore of the lake (being) of a much less valuable type than those on the Winnepesaukee shore...It is thought by some that the discontinued road leading by the northwest corner of that pond might well be improved as a means of opening up additional land for summer homes.....There seems to be reason to expect continued growth in the number of summer homes...making that use predominant. ...The greater part of the area is covered with second growth timber of the type usually found on cut over lands and old fields and pastures."

**5.** Middle Road from the outskirts of Melvin Village to the Wolfeboro town line. According to the report the area "is all cut up into small farms and rural residences, none of the farms except one being operated very actively. This farm is a wholesale dairy herd of 15-20 cows. The others do a general business including milk, vegetables, poultry, potatoes, and small fruit for local use. The soil is mostly a sandy loam but some farms have a rather heavy, stony loam. The buildings are fair to poor, the pasture generally poor...The ultimate use of this region is somewhat uncertain, for although the farms are by no means actively operated, there is a good nearby market, particularly in the summer, for the vegetable and dairy products."

**6.** Lakeshore Road area extending from north of Melvin Village all the way to Mirror Lake. The report states this area is similar to the agricultural area along Middle Road but has "soil somewhat heavier and more fertile." The report states "throughout the length of the area there may be five or six men who could be classified as part-time farmers providing small amounts of vegetables and other products for the local market. In addition to these there are perhaps half a dozen others who keep one or two cows. The prevailing land use is residence combined with recreational developments such as summer homes, tourist homes, and roadside camps."

**7.** Lakeshore and Island area is defined by "the almost continuous row of summer homes stretching along the Winnepesaukee shore from Moultonboro to Wolfeboro....Melvin Village, partly located in this area, is owned about 50% by summer people."

Having analyzed each of the eight regions in Tuftonboro, the committee summarized their thoughts on the future of the town: "The committee believes that the

outlook for the town is reasonably bright." Regarding the town's recreation industry, the committee wrote "non-residents own 2/3 of the total valuation of the town ... (with recreational property valuations) possibly running as high as \$7,000 to \$8,000 each." The committee noted "people are beginning to come back into town a second time for winter sports which include ice boating on the lake." The Committee estimated that "not over 2/3 of the Winnepesaukee shoreline has yet been developed while only a small start has so far been made on Mirror Lake. Some further growth is possible On Lower Beech Pond and possibly Dan Hole pond, although the development of the latter will be slow because of relative inaccessibility and the fact that one camp organization owns a large part of the shore." Town employment also received comment by the committee: "The recreation industry provides by far the largest part of the income for the townspeople...Individual income has generally been reasonably adequate in the summer but the going is often hard in the winter because of the seasonal nature of the recreational business ...The establishment of small wood working industries or renewal of active lumbering have been suggested as a means of overcoming this seasonal lack of income. There are from 25 - 30 individuals who especially need additional work. Work on the roads has so far been the chief way of taking up the slack. For the last five years the town has obtained about \$2,000 annually from the state new road construction." Additionally the committee noted that "forest areas are not producing over 20% of what would be possible under good management" and recommended that "government supervision and assistance in forest management would be worthwhile."

In 1939 the Tuftonboro Land Use Committee was assessing the town's change from an agricultural community to a recreational community and they were anxious for further development. Today Tuftonboro is faced with somewhat different issues, as its Winnepesaukee lakeshore is now nearly completely developed and more and more people are becoming full time residents. The present challenge for the town is how to achieve balanced development while at the same time preserving the rural landscape that makes Tuftonboro such a desirable place to live.

Ann Hackl

## CHURCH NEWS

A busy summer at Melvin Village Community Church was highlighted by annual events, including the Auction and Fair in July, and the Labor Day weekend Flea Market. Church Adventure Week was a tremendous experience for the forty local and visiting children, several youth assistants, and numerous adult volunteers.

The search for a new pastor is under way, with patience and prayer the by-words. Weekly Sunday worship services and Sunday Church School continue at 10 a.m. led by Interim Pastors Luann and Robert Ketchum and head teacher Diane Tepe. Everyone is welcome at all our activities.

Kathy Mendenhall

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

A year ago the Conservation Commission embarked on a "Cost of Community Services" study to be done by an Americorps volunteer supervised and funded by the Lake Winnepesaukee Association through a \$2,000 grant from SPACE (Statewide Program of Action to Conserve our Environment). In an effort to demonstrate the economic advantages of open space to New Hampshire communities, SPACE funded studies throughout the State whose results were quite similar to Tuftonboro's.

These studies look at revenue generated by various land use types, typically residential, open space, and commercial/industrial. These revenues are compared to the total expenditures by the town in providing municipal services to them. This provides the town a financial snapshot at a point in time (in this case the year 2000) showing the ratio of expenditure to revenue for each land use category. This information can be a very useful planning tool for towns. The study found that for every dollar of Tuftonboro revenue, the town spent \$.81 to service residential land, \$.25 to service open space land, and \$.22 to service commercial/industrial land. The study also broke down the residential category into year-round and seasonal residents and noted the cost of servicing the former as \$1.17 and for the latter as \$.23.

One of the most interesting aspects of this study was a look at how much open space there is in Tuftonboro. Initially the study included: 1.) Property in Current Use: 8,730.46 acres in 177 parcels representing 90 landowners. 2.) Unimproved Town Owned Land: 372.62 acres in 6 parcels; 3.) Camp Owned Land: 1,542.91 acres in 10 parcels representing 6 camps. 4.) Conservation Lands of Non-Profit Organizations: 43 acres in 2 parcels. This amounted to a total of 10,688.99 acres of open land.

Although these were the categories used by other towns for similar studies, it seemed to the Conservation Commission that this was not a true picture of the amount of open space in Tuftonboro. So the Commission proceeded to calculate other tracts of open space in town: 1.) Vacant Parcels Qualifying (But Not Assessed) For Current Use: 4,247.74 acres in 96 parcels and 2.) Improved Land Qualifying (But Not Assessed) For Current Use After Deducting 2 Acres For Improvements: 4,418.21 in 93 parcels. These additions produced a total of 19,354.94 open acres, nearly twice the study's original calculation and hopefully a more accurate picture of rural Tuftonboro.

The town encompasses 31,622.4 acres of which 5,638.4 acres are lakes and ponds, leaving a Tuftonboro land area of 25,984 acres. With a total of 19,354.94 acres in open space, Tuftonboro has 75% of its land undeveloped, much of it in large blocks which can provide the spacious habitat that is required by certain species such as moose, bear, coyote, and fisher cat. Extensive recreational trails through these lands enhance the quality of Tuftonboro life. Blessed with such a low population density, Tuftonboro today has an enviable opportunity to set aside tracts of land for conservation to ensure that this landscape will be preserved for their children and future generations.

Ann Hackl

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Fall season brings an end to our summer activities and the closing of our museum for the winter. We have enjoyed another successful season with the museum busy with visitors enjoying the newly appointed exhibits, now clearly visible for the first time thanks to our new track lighting. Our special exhibit this summer, the paintings of Barbara Williams, was well received, and we all are awed by her talent with a brush. Our inventory and photographing project is continuing through the winter at the museum under the direction of Mindy Jones. The museum is being prepared for the winter months, but we are still able to have visitors by special appointment (to arrange, call Susie Weeks, our curator, at 544-2203). Our annual meeting on September 23rd will have taken place by the time of this publication, and we anticipate all the reports will be good ones.

Our July meeting was an informative report on the development and history of the Mirror Lake Church and the Mirror Lake community as researched by Dick Frye. We all went away having learned some interesting facts and having had the pleasure of seeing some Indian artifacts found in the vicinity of Mirror Lake. As usual, we thank Dick for his support of the Historical Society programs.

August brought the hottest weather on record and our annual Craft Fair and Flea Market day which were successful despite the heat chasing away many usual attendees. We are considering changing the date next summer to coordinate with other community activities.

Please take note of our October meeting with Gary Chelames and Mal Fuller who will be doing a program on antique radios. Enjoy a walk down memory lane with these two local collectors and enjoy some of their still working editions. The meeting will be October 27th at 7:30pm at the Willing Workers Hall. All are invited to attend.

We are presently working on a number of special projects and are always looking for help or interest. We are sponsoring an area town Historical Society "Convention" in October, to help us and other societies with mutual concerns and issues. We hope to have a good turn out and lots of interesting items on the agenda.

We are looking forward to the lighting of our Christmas tree on the front lawn, as it was enjoyed by many last season.

Mary Hunter

## HIKERS

The Hikers have been busy with their summer fundraising projects. The Annual Bake Sale at the end of June raised \$865. In July, another successful House tour raised \$5,500 for next year's scholarships. Membership in Hikers requires a commitment to serve the community and the members are fulfilling their goals. Membership is open to all. Hikers was organized in 1930 and has grown from a small group to over 240 members.

Marjorie Dow will be honored for her 50 years as a member of Hikers at the October 3 meeting at 2 PM in Willing Workers Hall. The Fall Rummage Sale will be held on October 17 from 10:00 AM until 1:00 PM. Drop off your clean clothing and treasures at Willing Workers Hall on Wed., October 16 from 12:30 until 3:30 PM.

On Nov. 7 come listen to Sally Cornwell of "Skysong Pottery." The Hikers will host a Luncheon at Willing Workers Hall during the Melvin Village Open House Tour on Nov. 9. In December the meeting on Thursday the 5th, "A Dutch Christmas," presented by Dr. and Mrs. Chris Bozuwa, should be an entertaining one for all. A Christmas Decoration Workshop, with the preparation of Good Cheer Plates, is on the schedule for December 19.

Information about Hikers can be obtained by calling Terri White, President, at 544-3236.

Terri White

## TUFTONBORO ASSOCIATION

Officers and directors were elected at The Tuftonboro Association Annual Meeting held June 21, 2002. Officers elected for two year terms are Ken Cookson - President, Dick O'Shaughnessy - Vice President, Anne Hunt - Secretary and Bob Theve - Treasurer.

Three current directors were reelected for three year terms, Lee White, Duke Southard and Sarah Copplestone. Three new directors were elected for two year terms, Mary Hunter, Dick Frucci and Bob Meehan.

President Ken Cookson reported on the state of the Association, citing the *Tuftonboro Times* as the Association's largest project. He thanked John and Priscilla Griffin for their efforts of the past two years in raising funds to support the publication. The other active project is the Graveyard Restoration initiative which is moving ahead with financial support from the Town.

The speaker for the evening was Diana Morgan, a Hydrogeologist in the Water Supply Division of the State Department of Environmental Services. Diana commented on the water situation, indicating that some of the shallow wells had recovered from last year's drought but some of the deeper bed rock wells were still below normal levels. She gave many pointers on how to conserve water. It's amazing how much water we use and waste without thinking about it until supplies dwindle.

I am pleased to report that in addition to the normal contributions for the *Tuftonboro Times* which we receive with membership dues, the solicitation envelope inserted in the Summer issue was a great success. A significant number of people have contributed to the support of the newsletter and have provided a broad base of community participation that is really encouraging. Thanks to all who contributed!

Ken Cookson

### **Tuftonboro, New Hampshire: CEMETERIES, GRAVEYARDS, AND BURIAL SITES 1800-1995**

An inventory of gravestone inscriptions with  
fifty-six graveyard locations,  
maps, and historical notes

Hardcover book available for \$20 at:  
Tuftonboro Town Offices,  
Tuftonboro General Store, and  
The Tuftonboro Association

## CONCORD OBSERVER

Despite the confusion from last-minute redistricting, we successfully completed the primary election without self-destructing like Florida. Any illusions about being a state of "retail" one-on-one politics were destroyed by the record spending and wholesale mudslinging, with more to come. The U.S. Senate and House campaigns will feature the parties promoting the usual special interests. The State House is still faced with the school funding crisis, and the gubernatorial race will be another referendum on property taxes versus income taxes.

We seem to be running out of other options. New Hampshire in recent decades has used various gimmicks to raise revenue, from the first-in-the-nation state lottery to "mediscam," where the state taxed hospitals so that the federal government could reimburse them. We need a new game to take money out of someone else's pockets. Our politicians like to call this the "New Hampshire Way."

We could turn to a solution that hasn't been used here in 250 years. Explaining it requires a short history lesson.

In 1741 New Hampshire won a favorable decision against Massachusetts grants in the colony, and got its own Royal Governor, Benning Wentworth. Tuftonboro, which was granted by Wentworth in 1750, is named for Colonel John Tufton Mason. He was a grantee whose daughter married Peter Livius, who in the 1770s owned Dishwater Mill at Mirror Lake; Mason may have completed the project. In 1746, he sold his inherited rights to the original royal grant of New Hampshire for 1,500 pounds to the "Masonian Proprietors" of Portsmouth, ending a century of litigation that had impeded settlement due to conflicting property claims. The Proprietors and the new Governor proceeded to create new towns, most sold to speculators, with a big cut for Wentworth. John Tufton Mason had unknowingly allowed the creation of a scandal more breathtaking than Enron, Worldcom, Tyco, and Cabletron combined.

Governor Wentworth had bigger ideas than accounting tricks. The Proprietors were all relatives and business associates, but they punctured his original idea of reclaiming undeveloped grants and re-granting them. The Proprietors announced that they were not going to displace existing settlers, a wise political move. Instead, Wentworth began making grants on the west side of the Connecticut River. New York's 1664 Charter put its eastern boundary at that river, but Connecticut and Massachusetts had modified it to a line 20 miles east of the Hudson River. Wentworth, with no authority to do so, continued that line north, and first granted Bennington (named after himself) in 1747, then over a hundred more towns east of the line. Governor Clinton of New York objected, but the French and Indian Wars delayed royal intervention until the 1760s. In 1764 New Hampshire and New York again disagreed on the meaning of a Royal Decree concerning the boundary, and New York attempted to make the settlers and speculators pay for their land again. In the meantime, Benning Wentworth collected taxes until he retired in 1766, succeeded by Governor John Wentworth.

New York was unsuccessful in reclaiming the area. Ethan Allen and his brothers, who were major landowners, organized the Green Mountain Boys to drive the "Yorkers"

out of New Hampshire. Although bounties were offered on the heads of both Allen and the Yorkers, he won the undeclared war on the ground, while appeals were made to the King. In 1767 New York was told to make no further grants in the area until the King made his "pleasure" known. He never got the chance. The American Revolution intervened, and Benning Wentworth's dubious land grants triumphed, a model for future con artists.

In 1777 the Republic of Vermont was created, and remained an independent country for 14 years. Vermont joined the Union in 1791, returning some secessionist towns to New Hampshire and paying New York \$30,000 in reparations, but that is another story.

Back to the present: we need a new source of revenue for New Hampshire, or we are doomed to endless arguments about income taxes. Selling Vermont again (or the Brooklyn Bridge) would probably not work, but the principle remains: sell something you have a dubious claim on, then tax it. Benning Wentworth looked west; we need a larger vision.

The answer is simple: New Hampshire could sell and collect property taxes on extraterrestrial real estate. While this may seem far-fetched, there is ample precedent for New Hampshire's claim to this property, which is being aggressively marketed on the internet at web sites such as moonestates.com, lunarembassy.com, moonproperty.net, and Crazy Andromeda's Slightly Used Asteroids Clearinghouse. Since money is changing hands in these transactions, it is contrary to government practice not to tax it. The only question is which government gains the revenue.

New Hampshire's claim goes back to at least 1858, when Sylvester Marsh requested a state charter to build the Mount Washington Cog Railway. The engineering obstacles inspired a proposed amendment to allow Marsh to build a railway to the moon. While that track extension was not approved, the record clearly indicates New Hampshire's extraterrestrial jurisdictional claim. This predates the Outer Space Treaty of 1967, to which the State of New Hampshire is not a party in any case. We have experience in fighting off claim-jumpers, thanks to the Green Mountain Boys, Benning Wentworth, and John Tufton Mason.

The only real question is which candidates are courageous enough to promote this solution. It is no stranger than most of the arrogant claims you will hear by November. There will be no taxation without representation. Extraterrestrials are already well represented in New Hampshire politics.

Ralph Kirschner



## TUFTONBORO FREE LIBRARY

Join us on Wednesday afternoons at 2:00 pm throughout the Fall for Story Hour, featuring new and old favorite picture books from our collection, and crafts for pre-schoolers (and their Moms or Dads).

UFO (UnFinished Objects) Fridays continue every other week throughout the Fall. If you have a sewing project or craft that you need help with - either technical support or moral! - check with Lindalee, the expert.

Check out our new non-fiction for kids in November! The Library was recently awarded a grant through the Books for Children program of the Libri Foundation in Eugene, Oregon. Libri provides children's books to rural public libraries on a matching funds basis. We thank our Friends of the Library for providing \$350 in match money that will purchase \$1,000 worth of new and classic nonfiction and picture book titles for the Library. The books will arrive some time in November; so watch the *Grunter* for an announcement.

In December, the Library will sponsor the 4th annual presentation of Ed Faye performing Chris Van Allsburg's holiday classic, *The Polar Express*. This popular family program has become a holiday tradition in Tuftonboro, and again will include hot chocolate for all and "the first gift of Christmas" for each child in the audience. This date is not finalized so call for details (569-4256).

Also during the holiday season, we will decorate the Library's book tree with stars, for patrons to purchase books for local children who would otherwise go without.

Special exhibits and displays change monthly, so stop in to check out the local talent and collections!

We now offer DVDs and books on CD, as well as the usual selection of books, videos, audiotapes, and magazines. You'll find a sampling of new book and video acquisitions on the Library's web page, at [www.worldpath.net/~tborolib](http://www.worldpath.net/~tborolib). And if you don't see what you want, just ask us - we'll get it for you!

Christie Sarles and Lindalee Lambert

## TUFTONBORO TRAILS

Ayer's Dam on the Melvin River at the edge of the "Great Meadow" is a great destination for a walk this Fall. Locate Dame Road on a map of Tuftonboro. From the Ledge Hill Road side of Dame Road, go about 6/10 of a mile to the Old Woods Road (or from the Middle Road end of Dame Road go about 1-1/2 miles to Old Woods Road). Proceed down Old Woods Rd. about 3/10 mile, passing a driveway on the right. Find a place to park on the right side of this logging road. Proceed ahead about 2/10 mile to where the road forks. Take a left here and go a short distance (now on a narrower trail) and again bear left at the next fork. Continue on a bit farther and follow the trail left at this last fork. The trail now winds along the left edge of a field, taking you to the Melvin River and the remains of the Ayer's Dam which powered an early Tuftonboro mill. Round Trip Distance: 1 mile (20 minutes estimated walking time). Please remember that this trail crosses private property and should be used respectfully. The owners are happy to share the trail with the public for low impact uses such as walking and cross-country skiing. They expect visitors to carry out what they carry in.

## PLANNING BOARD

The Public Hearing of July 18 opened with an announcement by Chairman Rick Friend that the hearing on Subdivision Regulations would be have to be rescheduled for August as not enough notice time had been given. He added that public input would still be taken at this meeting, but there was none.

The Camp Merrowvista Site Plan for a new dining room facility that will replace the existing one was reviewed. The building will be 1,000 square feet larger than the existing one but will handle the same number of diners providing more space per person. After a review of septic and waste disposal, fire protection, parking and runoff considerations the plan was approved with the condition that height calculations be submitted in writing to show the average height to be less than thirty-five feet.

David Ladd submitted an application for a three lot subdivision of land fronting on County Road, proposing to create a 13 acre lot with the existing house, a 21-1/2 acre lot and a 23-1/2 acre lot for family members. After discussion of several concerns the plan was approved with conditions: 1.) monuments be set 2.) State wetlands approval 3.) signatures on wetland certification 4.) shed relocated in setback or ZBA waiver obtained. Mr. Ladd indicated he would probably seek a waiver.

A two lot subdivision of property on Middle Road was submitted by Thomas Swift which created a 5 acre lot with the existing house and an 18 acre lot with no building. In response to questions from abutters, Mr. Swift indicated the larger parcel might be used for a future home. The application was approved.

An application for a two lot subdivision of land creating two 30 acre lots with frontage on Route 109A was submitted by Jacquelyn Rollins and Susan Weeks. Application was approved.

An application for a five lot subdivision was submitted by the Brickfield Farm Trust creating three 2 acre lots, a 9 acre lot and an 18 acre lot all with frontage on Brickfield Way. A number of items were needed to complete the application and the Board wished to visit the site so the hearing on this application was continued to the August 15, 2002 meeting.

At the Public hearing on August 15, 2002 the first item on the agenda was the presentation of the revised Subdivision Regulations. Chairman Rick Friend explained that the changes made basically brought the Town's Subdivision Regulations up to date with all new State Regulations, a job that has not been done for 15 years. The only major change was road profiles. The Board measured many roads in town and decided to change to an 18' width for the traveled way rather than 24' as required in the old regulations. Most of the major roadways in town are less than that required by the old regulations. After discussion the Board voted to adopt the new regulations.

The Brickfield Farm application, continued from July to allow for a site visit by the Board, was reviewed. Most of the items requested at the last meeting were provided and a satisfactory site visit was completed. The application was approved with two conditions: 1.) two more pins were to be set and 2.) State approval to be obtained.

The next item was an application for a Boundary Line Adjustment to create two lots, one of 2.15 acres and one of 6.78 acres, from the two 4.5 acre lots existing on the Randlov Trust Property on Ledge Hill Road. Application was approved pending State approval.

An application by the Leroux Family Trust to create a 10 lot cluster subdivision on 20.58 acres located on Ledge Hill Road and Winners Circle Farm Road was continued to the September 19, 2002 Public Hearing. There were a number of questions to be answered and missing items to be supplied. The Board also wished to make a site visit to increase their understanding of the proposal.

The Board is currently working on the development of new check lists for the revised Subdivision Regulations and will be reviewing the Site Plan Review Regulations in the coming year.

Ken Cookson

## COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Since its formation in the Fall of 2000 the members of the local TufWolf detachment of the Coast Guard Auxiliary have spent many hours training to become vessel examiners, instructors, boat crew members and radio watch standers. This year all that training began to pay off as the eight local members put it to work assisting the Coast Guard in carrying out its mission..

So far this year the eight local members have contributed a total of 1,683 hours of assistance to the Coast Guard, including 139 Vessel Safety Checks, seven boating safety classes involving over 100 students, and weekends spent by boat crew members on safety and security patrols in the Portsmouth Harbor area.

Since the September 11 attack the Coast Guard has been called upon to do much more than its traditional role and has looked to the Coast Guard Auxiliary not only to take over much of the responsibility for Boating Safety but to assist in other areas as well, limited only by its policy of non enforcement activities for the Auxiliary. Auxiliary members around the country are responding to this challenge and have filled in wherever manpower shortages have occurred, consistent with their training, which in most cases is similar to that received by regular Coast Guard personnel.

The TufWolf detachment will be offering additional Boating Safety courses over the winter designed to help meet the State requirements for boat operator training. As of January 2003 all operators age 16 to 26 will be required to have a Safe Boating Certificate to operate a vessel. Watch your local paper for starting dates for these courses sometime in late fall. Anyone interested in joining the Coast Guard Auxiliary may call me at 544-2248 or come to one of our meetings on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Library Meeting Room.

Ken Cookson

## RECREATION NEWS

The summer recreation program during the month of July included swimming lessons at all levels and a Swim Team (the "Torpedoes"). The lessons were conducted by Mary Ann Murray and Kathy Roseen. Ninety-five children aged 5 to 16 participated in the Learn to Swim lessons based on Red Cross levels, the Guard Start program, or the Swim Team. The weather and the "New Beach" contributed to a very successful season! The larger area, the floating rafts connected by the professional lane lines, a good size parking lot, and space for picnics and spreading out your blanket all contributed to making this a desirable place to be. Those who completed a swimming lesson level may pick up their cards at the Town Office .

The Swim Team had an exciting year, starting with the competition for a new name now that they were no longer were based in Melvin village. The full new name, a combination of two entrees, is "The Town of Tuftonboro Swim Team Torpedoes." The team was open to anyone who could swim at least 25 yards and any child 6 or under who could swim 12-1/2 yards. Over thirty youngsters joined the team. A pre-season practice for returning members and those wishing to try the team out was well attended and will be held again next year (watch the newspaper for the dates!).

Swim Team competitions began with the Swampscott Beach Club at Nineteen Mile Bay on July 12th ("Torpedo" victory) and a return meet at Swampscott on July 19th ("Torpedo" loss). The last meet of the season was against the Wolfeboro team who was particularly well trained in preparation for the Granite State Swim Association contest. The "Torpedoes" lost this match, lacking some of their swimmers, but are eagerly looking forward to a re-match next year. The season closed with an intra-squad meet which included friends of the team and introduced new kids to the program. Win or lose, the meets are always great fun for everyone with plenty of playtime as well as competition. The last day of lessons was filled with games and an exciting demonstration by the Tuftonboro Fire Department.

With summer now over, the Recreation Commission will start planning for Winter activities. The Commission will meet on September 26th to elect officers and schedule meetings. Plans are in the works for an outdoor skating rink. The Commission will also be discussing the playground and pavilion plans for the Nineteen Mile Bay Beach. Anyone who has suggestions for the improvement of the recreation program should send them to the Commission through Carolyn Sundquist at the Town Offices. Please submit *all suggestions!* The Commission needs everyone's input for creatively utilizing the town's many resources. Check the newspaper for meeting dates and bring your ideas.

Mary Ann Murray

## The Castle-in-the-Clouds Campaign Continues

The Lakes Region Conservation Trust is making every effort to secure the \$2,000,000 dollar payment due December 15, 2002. So far, \$1,500,000 in cash and pledges has been received. To help secure the future of this exceptional landmark property, contributions can be sent to the Lakes Region Conservation Trust, PO Box 1097, Meredith, NH 03853.

## ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Recap December 2001 and 2002 to Present

Dec. 27, 2001: Application of Elizabeth Strough of Tuftonboro Neck to construct a driveway on a R.O.W. over two lots located off Plante's Way (an extension of Cross Neck Rd.) to access her building lot. The Board gave its approval contingent on the applicant assuming responsibility for the wear and tear on the road during construction and for returning the road to its original condition post-construction.

March 11, 2002: Application of Elm Point Corp. of Tuftonboro Neck to install a septic tank and pump 50 feet from the lake to service one cabin in a seasonal seven cabin family compound located on Elm Pt. Rd. (another extension of Cross Neck Rd.). Presently only one other cabin has a septic system and this serves the whole compound. The distance was approved by the State, although additional Wetlands Bureau approval will be required. The tank would meet State standards with a 1,250 gallon capacity in a shallow form designed for the high water table and proximity to the lake. The Board approved this application on the basis that the slope and wetness of the land precluded any other option for an additional septic system which would be an improvement on the existing situation.

April 16, 2002: Application of Ed Oswalt and Cynthia Kimball to build on a pre-zoning lot not having "approved" road frontage. The lot is located on Neal Hill Rd. (off Sawyer Pt. Rd.) and is not an "approved" road. The Board felt the lot should not be penalized for its pre-zoning location and granted approval with the notation that this did not imply Board approval of Neal Hill Rd.

May 28, 2002: Application of Howard and Nancy Christopher to add a porch to an existing dwelling which will require a 5 foot setback variance. The property is only 60 feet wide and is located on the Gov. Wentworth Hwy. just west of the Oak Hill Dr. intersection. The porch is needed to provide an extension of the roofline to accommodate a new upstairs bedroom which will free up a downstairs bedroom so that it can be converted to house a new oil furnace (replacing the current electric heat) and the laundry appliances. Both abutters have no objections. The Board approved the application because it thought that the width of the property was intrinsically a hardship.

July 9, 2002: Application of John and Carol Haran of Westwood Bay Road to move an existing cottage 10 feet further back from the lake (from 29 feet to 39 feet away from the lake). The footprint would be the same except for one corner of the porch. The move is necessitated because the building is in the floodplain on supports that are becoming unstable. The full 50 foot lake setback cannot be achieved because the rear of the lot has a new State approved septic as well as standing water draining off Rt. 109. Neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. John Gardner, expressed concern about drainage and it was agreed that the proposed 2 foot culvert could be extended another 40 feet to be sure all water reached the drainage ditch and didn't impact the Gardner property. The Board approved the application because the narrow, wet lot was a hardship

and the proposed move would be an improvement.

July 16, 2002: Application of Bill Antonucci and Tina Keniston of Gov. Wentworth Hwy. to construct a garage 5 feet from their neighbor Roseen's property line. The subject lot is both narrow and wet and there is no other possible location for the garage (if attached to the house, access to the rear of the lot would be blocked; the proposed location allows 8 feet between the house and garage). The driveway will be slightly altered to access the garage. Abutters Roseen and Palmason wrote to say they had no objections. The Board approved the application as the nature of the lot, with the well and septic already in place, left no other option except removing the house deck (which seemed an unreasonable request).

July 30, 2002: Application of John and Janice Herrold of Winter Harbor Way to: 1.) "square off" front of house (presently 24 feet from lake) by adding a deck which would be 24 feet plus and 2.) expand the bedroom side of the house by 4 feet, thereby bringing the building about 19 feet from the side boundary line with only about 3 feet in length actually infringing. Neither abutters objected. The Board approved the application, feeling that the narrow lot (75 feet) was difficult and expansion reasonable. There was disagreement as to whether the deck request constituted a hardship, but it was ultimately approved with the proviso that it could not later be enclosed for living space.

July 30, 2002: Application of Gloria Migliori to build a deck along her Hidden Valley lot shoreline to attach and access more easily her floating dock. She was told the Wetlands Bureau has jurisdiction and should be contacted for such a request. Accordingly the application was denied.

Sept. 11, 2002: There are new faces on the Board as Chip Albee and Bob Theve replace Chip Worthington and Dave Eaton. Bob Murray is the new Chairman. Application of Susan Kenny-Welch to expand her non-conforming mobile home located in the 25 site Barvel Whang mobile home park in the LDR (Low Density Residential) zone. In January of '02 the applicant purchased a single wide unit and in March applied to the Code Officer to replace it with a three bedroom double wide unit. The Code Officer approved the request contingent on Barvel Whang Association approval and receipt of new unit blueprints. In April the single unit was moved out and over the summer arrangements were made for the new unit. In August the blueprints were submitted and a permit received. Selectmen rescinded the permit on the grounds that it was a non-conforming expansion. Currently nine double wide units are at the park and until now the ZBA has never been consulted (two permits were issued as recently as April and June of this year). The new double unit was already paid for and scheduled for Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> shipment. Concern was expressed regarding septic capacity. The current system, updated in 1991, is designed for 50 bedrooms. Testimony was presented that recent readings show the use to still be below capacity. The Board, since the notice for the hearing had been published as a Special Exception, had to judge the application by Special Exception criteria instead of by Variance criteria which would have included

the hardship question. Since the park is "grandfathered" and the application presented no hazards, adverse impact on property values, or required additional municipal services, the Board approved the application for a two bedroom unit only (theoretically the third bedroom will become an "office") and noted that, as an expansion of a non-conforming use, the application should really have been treated as a variance. Ann Hackl

## HUMANE SOCIETY

Lakes Region Humane Society has had great success placing dogs this summer. We've had some fabulous dogs find loving homes both in and outside of our community. Thanks to everyone who came in to adopt one of our special canine friends.

While cat adoptions have also been steady, we have been seeing more and more strays arrive at our center as the summer visitors head home. Because of the number of incoming animals, we now have over 40 cats waiting to find new homes. We have all varieties of sizes, shapes, colors, and personalities in our kitties. We have seniors, adults, young adults, and kittens. There is a cat here for just about everyone. In residence are long-haired cats and short-haired cats, all anxiously waiting for the right family to meet them.

If you are a senior citizen living alone, you may be eligible to participate in our Senior to Senior Program. The program's purpose is to unite a senior citizen with a senior cat, offering companionship and friendship to each other. Adoption fees are waived and shelter personnel keep in touch with the adopter to ensure that kitty receives medical treatment when necessary and to assist in caring for the cat should the adopter be hospitalized. Senior citizens residing in our service area are eligible for this program.

With so many cats to choose from, now is the perfect time to visit the shelter and seek out a cuddly lap cat to curl up with this winter. Come in and find that soft ball of fur to warm your feet on a cold night or to snuggle with on a rainy afternoon. Our staff is ready and waiting to introduce you to the purrrfect cat to share your home. Shelter hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 11:00 am. to 4:00 p.m. Caroline Hess

## CHILDREN'S VOICES

### *Copp's Pond*

The stunning silence,  
The fresh scent,  
The brightness of the sun—  
That's Copp's Pond.  
The trees  
Look as if they were on fire;  
The horizon looks as blue as a pool—  
That's Copp's Pond.  
The darkness of the forest and water,  
The whites and blues of the sky,  
The greens of the lilies and trees—  
That's Copp's Pond,

Andrew Wood, Grade 5

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

OCTOBER THRU DECEMBER 2002

## October

1	7:00 PM	Tuftonboro Central School PTCO meets - All welcome	Tuft. Central School
3	9:00 AM -10:00 AM	Workshop for present and future school volunteers Breakfast provided - Call School to register	Tuft. Central School
16	12:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Hikers Rummage Sale Drop Off	Willing Workers Hall
17	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Hikers Rummage Sale	Willing Workers Hall
23	7:30 PM	Final Report on Great Meadows Speaker - Rick Van de Pol	Tuft. Central School
26	5:00 PM & 6:30 PM	Church Supper - Tuftonboro Corner Methodist Church New England Boiled Dinner - Res: Peg Newton 569-6928	Tuft. Cor. Meth. Church
27	7:30 PM	Historical Society - Antique Radios Speakers: Gary Chehames and Mal Fuller	Willing Workers Hall
27	2:00 AM	Standard Time Returns (set clocks back 1 hour)	
31	1:30 PM	Halloween Costume Parade - TCS to Tuftonboro Library	TCS to Library
31	5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Official Trick or Treat hours per Tuftonboro Police	Tuftonboro

## November

1 - 30		Annual Fresh Florida Citrus Sale, orders taken for before Christmas delivery. Order from any 6th grader or call TCS.	Tuft. Central School
2	10:00 AM - 3:00 PM	Annual Craft Bazaar - TCS Gym	Tuft. Central School
5		Election Day - Get out and Vote	Town House
5	7:00 PM	Tuftonboro Central School PTCO meets - All welcome	Tuft. Central School
9	10:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Melvin Village Holiday Festival	Tuftonboro
9	11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Hikers - Melvin Village Open House Luncheon	Willing Workers Hall
10	10:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Melvin Village Holiday Festival	
17	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	NH Fish and Game Salmon Stripping - Pope Dam	Melvin Village

## December

3	7:00 PM	Tuftonboro Central School PTCO meets - All welcome	Tuft. Central School
12	6:30 PM	Tuftonboro Central School Holiday Music Program	Tuft. Central School
13		Fresh Florida Citrus delivered to TCS (tentative date)	Tuft. Central School

## Tuftonboro Free Library -

Story Hour Wednesday afternoon at 2:00 PM throughout the Fall for preschoolers (and their Moms or Dads)  
UFO (UnFinished Objects) Fridays every other week throughout the Fall  
In December, the 4th Annual Presentation of the "Polar Express" - Check Library for date  
Flu Shots - Watch your local paper for date and time - Late October or early November

## SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

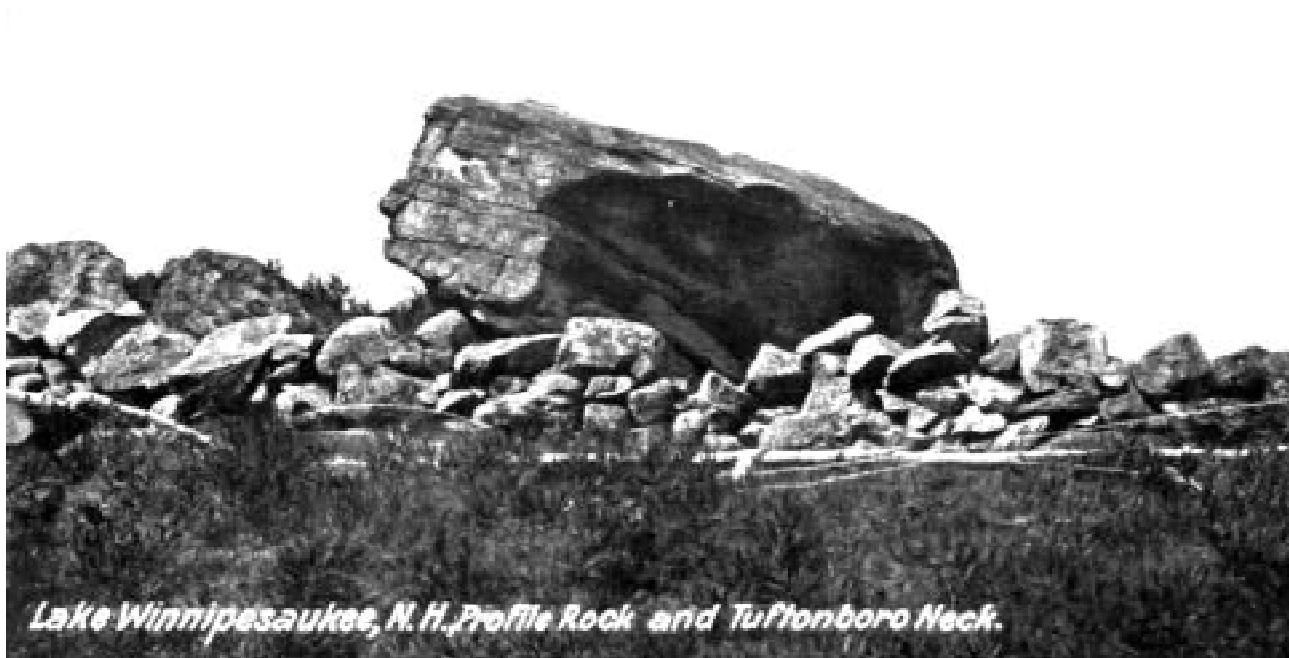
Our school year began with a total of 2,895 students with the school breakdowns as follows: Kingswood Regional High School-976; Kingswood Regional Middle School-513; Carpenter School-274; Crescent Lake Elementary-285; New Durham Elementary-208; Effingham School-47 (K-3 only); Ossipee Central School-443 and Tuftonboro Central School-149. The official school year number as reported to the State of New Hampshire is the October 1st enrollment. We anticipate a total enrollment of approximately 2,975 by that date.

At the September 3rd school board meeting, we reviewed the bids for the new Effingham elementary school and awarded the contract to Bauen Corporation of Meredith. Bauen Corporation has done work for the district in the past, including the last addition to Tuftonboro Central School. I will keep you updated on the progress of this current building project. We expect the new Effingham school to open its doors in September 2003 and welcome all of the K-6 students in Effingham to their own school. This will help alleviate an overcrowding situation at Ossipee Central School, which currently houses grades 4-6 students from Effingham. I want to once again thank the voters of the district for their support last March that made this project a reality.

The New Hampshire School Boards Association has once again refused to include a resolution addressing violence in the media as submitted by our school board and a subsequent resolution filed by the Freedom School Board. As voted last year, your school board has dropped its membership in the New Hampshire School Boards Association and will continue to use the membership dues within the district to address the above mentioned issue of violence in the media. We have received support from several other school districts and we hope that the New Hampshire School Boards Association will open their eyes to the importance of this issue.

As the school year began, we are reviewing the dress code policy as implemented a couple of years ago. In general, the feeling is that it has had a positive effect on the atmosphere in the schools. If anyone has any input regarding the above policy, please give me a call. I can be reached at 544-9086 most evenings.

Jack Widmer



An early postcard shows Tuftonboro Neck's "Profile Rock." It would be interesting to learn if this landmark still exists and, if so, just where it's located. Tuftonboro Neck used to be all open farmland, and it's quite possible that this rock is now buried somewhere in the forest, its location forever a mystery. (Postcard courtesy of Mary Hunter)

The Tuftonboro Association  
P.O. Box 121  
Melvin Village, NH 03850

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